

MARBLE HILL WINS PLEBISCITE PROMISE

Residents, Angrily Opposing Bronx 'Anschluss,' Find a Champion in Isaacs

FUEHRER LYONS QUASHED

Woman Tells Estimate Board Area Wants 'Gentleman' for Its Borough President

A proposal by Mayor La Guardia and James J. Lyons, Borough President of the Bronx, that the Marble Hill section of Manhattan, which lies on the Bronx side of the Harlem Ship Canal, be transferred to the Bronx, met with a storm of protest from Marble Hill residents at a meeting of the Board of Estimate yesterday, and a characterization by Newbold Morris, President of the City Council, that it was "monkey business."

George U. Harvey, Queens Borough President, who usually sees eye to eye with his Bronx colleague, joined with Mr. Morris in giving the Bronx Borough President a severe joshing for his attempt to aggrandize his borough at the expense of a "helpless minority," much as Germany had seized the Sudetenland and Russia was invading Finland.

Lyons Silenced by Woman

Mr. Lyons, who started his drive on Marble Hill last March and was abetted in his ambition by the Mayor early this week, remained undaunted and unbowed, however, until the scorn of a woman withered him.

Mrs. Murray Tyler, dignified and gray haired, started to voice her opposition by explaining that she had lived in Marble Hill for forty-six years.

"You don't look old enough for that," interposed Mr. Lyons with his irrepressible boyishness.

"Please don't interrupt me, Mr. Lyons," Mrs. Tyler said sharply. Then, addressing the Board, she continued.

"We in Marble Hill would be ashamed to have a Borough President like Mr. Lyons. We want a gentleman at the head of our borough."

Stanley M. Isaacs, Manhattan Borough President, bowed modestly. By the end of the discussion he stood out as the champion of the residents of Marble Hill by moving that provision for a plebiscite be contained in any legislation that might be prepared by the Corporation Counsel and the committee of the whole.

The board voted to refer the matter to the Corporation Counsel and the committee of the whole, as proposed by the Mayor and as amended by Mr. Isaacs.

The Mayor, in suggesting that the Corporation Counsel prepare any local or State legislation that might be necessary, had recommended that the anomaly of having part of Manhattan north of the Harlem Ship Canal be corrected by transferring it to the Bronx. He also suggested, after it had been brought to his notice by Mr. Lyons that part of La Guardia Field, Queens, was within the boundaries of the Bronx, according to Federal surveys, that all of the airfield be placed in Queens.

Residents of Area Protest

As the Marble Hill item on the calendar was taken up, twenty residents of the section stormed to the rail before the board.

"What's the matter, don't you like der Fuehrer?" asked Mr. Morris. As the group's protests rose, Mr. Harvey remarked:

"You know how the Finns feel."

Mr. Lyons, saying the section belonged in the Bronx, contended that a majority of the residents favored the transfer.

"They do not," chorused all the Marble Hill residents present.

Terming the whole thing "nonsensical," Mr. Morris did admit that Mr. Lyons had cut a picturesque figure, "like Balboa surveying the Pacific," when the Bronx Fuehrer had planted his banner on a rocky promontory of the fifty-two-acre section in March.

Mr. Lyons protested that the Mayor had offered a practical plan, and Mr. Morris retorted: "I think the Mayor was entering into the fun."

When the vote was taken Mr. Morris alone voted against the reference, saying he did not believe in burdening the Corporation Counsel with "monkey business."